

Procedures for the Processing of Scientific Collecting Permits

1. Application Process:

- ❖ Applications will be posted on the DAR web site and are available via a PDF form to download and fill out, or they can be faxed to the applicant.
- ❖ Permits will be awarded to the Principle Investigator, Project Coordinator, Teacher or Investigator in charge of the research/project. Permits will not be awarded to the institution. All assistants, students and or employees involved in the project must be listed on the permit.
- ❖ Applicant must submit two signed copies of the permit application to DAR at least 2 weeks prior to the commencement of field activities.
- ❖ The applicant and all assistants must complete all of the following steps:
 1. The applicant must list all assistants on this permit; and
 2. The applicant and all assistants must read, understand, and agree to abide by all the permit conditions by signing both copies.

2. Review Process:

- ❖ DAR will not process a new permit unless the applicant has complied with all of the previous permit requirements.
- ❖ Any activity involving an organism protected under Federal law must have a federal permit or prior written approval from the appropriate Federal agency to engage in the requested activities. The Federal approval must accompany this application or the Division of Aquatic Resources (DAR) will not process the application.
- ❖ The Division reserves the right to limit the number, type or amount of organisms allowed to be collected under a permit.
- ❖ Minor permits for educational programs will be reviewed and processed by an individual staff member.
- ❖ Permits involving multiple species that have the potential to impact the resource, or where collection activities may be performed in regulated areas, will be reviewed by two staff. In the case of permits awarded on neighbor islands, the neighbor island staff may provide the second review.
- ❖ Permit applications will be processed within a two-week time frame, unless significant concerns regarding proposed collections are present.

- ❖ Limits will be placed on the collection of organisms that have been identified as rare, have a limited range, are only found in isolated areas, or when the removal of significant amounts of the organisms could result in removal of three dimensional substrate and therefore potential habitat loss.
- ❖ Live stony coral species may not be moved or transplanted without a permit.
- ❖ The placement of multiple or large semi-permanent objects in or on the substrate requires a Scientific Collection permit due to the potential impacts to coral or other benthic biota.

3. Approval/Renewal Process:

- ❖ DAR will prepare the permit for the Chairperson's signature; and if approved, DAR will send one copy to the now valid permittee and keep one copy for its records.
- ❖ The permittee may request changes to the permit. Any such request to make changes to the permit must be made in writing and received by the DAR at least two weeks prior to the change. All personnel changes will require each individual to sign an "Attachment" stating that they have read, understood, and agree to abide by all general and special permit conditions. No change may be implemented without written approval from the Department/DAR.
- ❖ The permittee may request to:
 1. Add assistants to the permit by having each assistant sign an "Attachment" and send the document to DAR;
 2. Add another permittee or be replaced by another permittee in the manner stated above; and
 3. Change the activities allowed under this permit.
- ❖ Once the permit has been approved, DAR will fax one copy to each location where the permit will be valid and ensure that permits are coordinated with the appropriate Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement offices.